

REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted the claims in the case to: Group I (claims 1-14) and Group II (claims 15-22). Applicants hereby elect Group I herein as required by 37 CFR § 1.143. Group II herein has been canceled without prejudice.

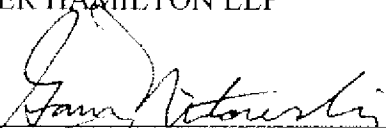
This response has been timely filed. Accordingly, no fee is required. In the event that a fee is required for this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0436.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, or need any additional information from Applicants' attorney, I invite the Examiner to contact me at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

PEPPER HAMILTON LLP

By:



Gary Nitowski

Reg. No. 52,497

500 Grant Street
One Mellon Bank Center, 50th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 454-5000 - phone
(412) 281-0717 - facsimile